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SUBJECT

Ltr: Sourceclines

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FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

TOKYO BUREAU

18 March 1964

[redacted]  
Chief, FOS, FBIS  
P.O. Box 2604  
Washington, D.C.

Dear [redacted]

Subject: Sourcelines

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Thanks for your 11 March response to our letter on sourcelines. We indeed recognize that the sourceline system is still evolving, and feel that one area of conflict which underlies part of our own problem is the categorizing of semi-governmental and semi-official in two distinctly separate classes, as explained by Sourceline paragraphs B-1 and C-1. In the further study of the problem, we believe our case needs some added clarification.

Under the present rules we conceded (in the 10 Feb. letter) NHK Domestic Service as "at best ..... quasi-governmental," meaning when harmonious with governmental policies. Since we indicate these broadcasts are not always harmonious but at times critical, it is felt they do not qualify under the presumption stipulated in paragraph B-1. While it is admittedly difficult to construe different classification between domestic and international broadcasts of NHK, the two policies are an observed fact and stem from the fiscal considerations described in our 10 Feb. letter.

We appreciate the opportunity to insert the letters NHK in domestic sourcelines and will do so to minimize confusion with Radio JOLF, whose name is "Nippon Hoso," arbitrarily translated Japan Broadcasting System to distinguish it from the Japan Broadcasting Company (NHK). In this connection, our 10 Feb. letter may have been misconstrued on the proposal to include certain abbreviations in sourcelines for clarity. The intention was to use the three initials additionally, not to supplant the name translation. This is simply because the initials are familiar to Japan hands, while the translated name in general is not and is sometimes confusing. For non-Japan readers, the name is perhaps more meaningful; hence the value to enlarging the sourceline by three letters.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Chief, Tokyo Bureau

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